

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Barbara Fisher on 3/8/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 10 has been cancelled

*QC.D8* In line 11 of claim 1, "the substate" has been replaced with --the substrate--

*QC.D8* In line 1 of claim 20, "an integrated circuit manufactured using the method" has been replaced with --A method of manufacturing an integrated circuit—

In line 1 of claim 21, "The integrated circuit as recited in claim 20" has been replaced with --The method as recited in claim 20—

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-8, 11-21, 26 allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Regarding claims 1, 11, 20, the applicants have presented persuasive arguments, see pages 9-10 of the response filed on 12/18/2007, that the cited prior art of Chien and Kim fails to disclose or suggest a method for etching a substrate comprises a step of etching an opening in said substrate dielectric layer using an etchant comprising a carbon oxide, a